## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 072713

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:EFIN, EINV, OECD

SUBJECT:AD HOC GROUP TO DRAFT STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR FOR MNES

- 1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DRAFT LANGUAGE ON GUIDELINES FOR MNES WHICH MISSION MAY GIVE TO SECRETARIATFOR DISTRIBUTION AT APRIL 3-4 MEETING OF AD HOC GROUP. MISSION SHOULD NOTE THAT THIS WORKING DOCUMENT AND INDEED ANY DOCUMENTS WHICH MAY EMERGE FROM AD HOC GROUP MEETING ARE AD REFERENDUM TO GOVERNMENTS.
- 2. QUOTE: GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOR BY MULTINATIONAL ENTER-PRISES. THE PARTICIPATING MEMBER COUNTRIES:
- (A) HAVING IN MIND THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF BOTH HOME AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 072713

HOSTCOUNTRIES WITH REGARD TO THE OPERATIONS OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES:

(B) DESIROUS OF ESTABLISHING AGREED GUIDELINES FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES OPERATING WITHIN THEIR JURSIDICTION IN ORDER THAT THESE MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES

MIGHT BE MADE AWARE OF THE BEHAVIOR WHICH THE PARTICIPATING

MEMBERS BELIEVE HELPS TO MAXIMIZE THE MULTINATIONAL ENTER-RPISES' POSITIVE CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO MINIMIZE ANY UNDE-SIRED CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR ACTIVITIES;

- (C) BELIEVING THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH GUIDELINES CAN ASSIST IN THE CREATION OF A MORE CERTAIN ENVIRONMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT WITH CONSEQUENT BENEFITS TO THE PARTICIPATING MEMBER COUNTRIES AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES ALIKE;
- (D) COGNIZANT OF THE CONTINUING WORK BEING CARRIED OUT IN THE SPECIALIZED COMMITTEES OF THE OECD AND RECOGNIZING THAT THIS WORK SHOULD RESULT IN MORE DETAILED FINDINGS

WHICH MAYLEAD TO FURTHER GUIDELINES OR OTHER USEFUL APPROACHES WITH RESPECT TO MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES;

- (E) RECOGNIZING THAT SUBSTANTIAL BENEFITS ARE BROUGHT TO HOME AND HOST COUNTRIES BY THE ACTIVITIES OF MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES, THAT MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES ARE INTENDED TO BE PROFIT-MAKING ORGANIZATIONS AND THAT REGULATION WHICH REDUCES THE PROFITABILITY OF OPERATIONS IS LIKELY TO HINDER INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND THEREFORE REDUCE ITS BENEFITS.
- (F) AGREEING THAT NOTHING IN THESE GUIDELINES IS INTENDED TO DEROGATE FROM THE OBLIGATIONS OF PARTICIPATING MEMBERS UNDER CUSTOMARY INTERNATIONAL LAW OR IN TREATIES OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE COMMITMENTS RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREEDOM OF INTERNATIONAL CAPITAL MOVEMENTS: AND

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PAGE 03 STATE 072713

(G) NOTING THAT THESE GUIDELINES FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTER-PRISES ARE PROMULGATED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH AGREEMENTS BY THE PARTICIPATING MEMBERS ON NATIONAL TREATMENT FOR ENTER-PRISES UNDER FOREIGN CONTROL AND ON OFFICIAL INCENTIVES AND DISINCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT;

. . .(A) HEREBY DECLARE THAT:

- (1) EVERY STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO PRESCRIBE THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES OPERATE WITHIN THEIR NATIONAL JURSIDICTIONS, AND THE CONCOMMITANT DUTY TO TREAT MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES EQUITABLY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LAW; AND
- (2) WHEN MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES ARE SUBJECT TO CONFLICTING LAWS, REGULATIONS, OR POLICIES, THE STATES CONCERNED SHOULD COOPERATE IN GOOD FAITH TO RESOLVE SUCH CONFLICTS, DUE REGARD BEING PAID TO THE INTERESTS OF THE

## CONCERNED STATES;

- $\dots$  (B) HEREBY SET FORTH GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOR AND INVITE ENTERPRISES OPERATING WITHIN THEIR TERRITORIES TO FOLLOW SAID GUIDELINES.
- (I) GENERAL GUIDELINE OF BEHAVIOR:
- (A) ENTERPRISES SHOULD RESPECT THE LAWS OF THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH THEY OPERATE AND SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO CONDUCT THEIR ACTIVITIES IN CONFORMITY WITH THE STATED POLICY OBJECTIVES OF THEIR HOME AND HOST COUNTRIES.
- (II) INDUSTRIAL POLICY: ENTERPRISES
- (1) SHOULD ENDEAVOR WHEN ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE TO ENSURE THAT THEIR OVERALL ACTIVITIES IN HOME AND HOST COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTE TO ACHIEVING THE COUNTRIES'STATED INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL OBJECTIVES, INCLUDING POLICIES RELATING TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT.
- (2) SHOULD BE PREPARED, IN THE EVENT OF REQUESTS FROM UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 072713

GOVERNMENTS OF HOME AND HOST COUNTRIES, TO MAKE KNOWN EXPECTATIONS AS TO THEIR ACTIVITIES, CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF BUSINESS CONFIDENTIALITY.

- (III) DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION: ENTERPRISES
- (1) SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO MAKE AVAILABLE A SUFFICIENT BODY OF QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE INFORMATION ON THEIROPERATIONS IN AN UNDERSTANDABLE FORM IN ORDER TO IMPROVE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR ACTIVITIES, GIVING DUE CONSIDERATION TO LEGITIMATE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIDENTIALITY;
- (2) SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE REASONABLE ASSISTANCE TO THEIR FOREIGN OPERATIONS IN COMPLYING WITH DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS OF HOST COUNTRIES.

(IV) FINANCING: ENTERPRISES SHOULD, IN MANAGING THE FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THEIR FOREIGN OPERATIONS, TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE STATED OBJECTIVES OF THE AUTHORITIES OF HOST AND HOME COUNTRIES REGARDING BALANCEOFPAYMENTS AND FISCAL POLICIES.

(V) RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES AND COMPETITION: ENTERPRISES SHOULD FULLY COMPLY WITH THE RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICE

LAWS OF THE PARTICIPATING MEMBER STATES WHOSE COMMERCE THEY DIRECTLY AFFECT, AND IF REQUESTED SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE TO ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES IN THOSE COUNTRIES INFORMATION NECESSARY TO THE DETERMINATION OF WHETHER RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE COMMERCE OF THOSE NATIONS HAVE OCCURRED.

(VI) TAXATION: ENTERPRISES

- (1) SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO PROVIDE REASONABLE ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING RELEVANT INFORMATION REQUESTED BY HOME AND HOST COUNTRY TAX AUTHORITIES.
- (2) SHOU REFRAIN FROM THE USE OF ARRANGEMENTS, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS THE ILLEGAL EVASION OFTAXATION OF PROFITS BY HOME OR HOST COUNTRIES. KISSINGER UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 05 STATE 072713

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Subject: D HOC GROUP TO DRAFT STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR FOR MNES

TAGS: EFIN, EINV, OECD To: OECD PARIS

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